Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota is an outdoor recreation destination for families, anglers, hunters, and adventure travelers; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's natural resources, state and national parks, and open spaces are recognized as some of the most spectacular, clean, and most accessible; and,

Whereas, South Dakota leads the way in trying to get families and children into the great outdoors with places like Game, Fish, and Parks' Outdoor Campuses, events like the Capital Campout and our three Outdoor Universities and programs like Go Fourth that provides a free daily park entrance license to every fourth grade student in the state; and,

Whereas, Today youth spend an average of ten hours per day in front of a screen and outdoor activity is touted by leading health organizations as a remedy to the adverse effects caused by increased inactivity; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's 13 state parks, 43 recreation areas, 5 nature areas, 1 historic prairie, 69 lakeside use areas, 10 marina/resorts, the 114-mile Mickelson Trail, 1,585 miles of snowmobile trails, 240 public water access areas, 299 boat ramps, and countless lakes attract millions of visitors each year; and,

Whereas, The economic impact of outdoor recreation is estimated at $4.5 billion and supports some 56,000 jobs; and,

Whereas, South Dakota's Great Outdoors is a partnership with federal, state, and local agencies, the recreation and tourism industries and other non-government organizations who make outdoor opportunities available; and,

Whereas, Enjoyment of South Dakota's Great Outdoors allows us to celebrate the commitment of our state to provide access to air, water, wildlife, and lands while protecting it at the same time and contribute to conservation efforts through various licenses, taxes, and fees:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 2016 as

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens and visitors from other states and other lands to explore, enjoy, protect, and conserve South Dakota's Great Outdoors.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Sixteenth Day of May in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State